

THE LAMPLIGHTER

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1600 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25311

Our Mission is to live and share God's Word in Jesus Christ

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PASTOR'S CORNER



February 2012

Pastor's Corner

You have to move so fast when you are on a journey. These days, I find myself packing things up at the office only to come home and pack more things up. Will I get those little odds and ends done that the house needs before we can put it on the market? Will I ever get all this stuff into boxes?

And then it happens. Out of a drawer falls a photograph of life's journey from long ago. Its my graduation party from the seminary in St. Louis (May, 1976). Vickie and I are standing front and center, me in my clerical shirt, mustache and long hair, both of us in the strength and vigor of youth, with joy and excitement written on our faces. Behind me is my Dad, not yet fifty in the picture. Between us and behind us is my younger cousin Cindy, who always adored me and loved me so. Behind Vickie is my best friend Joel who traveled to St. Louis because he wanted to be with me on that special day too.

Not long after this picture was taken, Joel was killed in a boating accident. His journey ended so abruptly. Cindy got married, had kids, came down with cancer and died. Dad made it to his seventies, but his journey ended about 11 years ago. Oh, I know that they are with our Lord, and I remind myself that my journey will end in his presence too, along with them. But the journey Vickie and I traveled with them is no more.

Three are gone, two are left. And a million questions flood my mind. Why Vickie and me? Why are we still here? And how good that we are. We started journeying together so long ago, and we are privileged to still do so – to pack up our things and hit the road again. Where I am moving to, I still get to wear my clerical. I will have to – for I will be a stranger there, and it will open doors for me and identify me to the new people I will be journeying with. The journey continues. The joy continues, and the excitement continues.

Because of the love Dad, Cindy, and Joel had for me, mixed with God's love, and because of the love, promises, and devotion of Vickie, I have been a pastor these many years. Their love blessed me and launched me into a future that eventually brought Vickie and me to Trinity.

In the midst of all my business these days, as the journey takes me away from Trinity, I see other pictures besides the ones that are falling out of drawers. I can remember a conversation or an encounter with one or more of God's people on every square inch of Trinity space. The columbarium, the youth room, the kitchen, the nave, the hallway, the offices – I journeyed with you in all those places. And in hospitals. And in your homes, your work, sometimes even to places as far away as Biloxi or San Antonio.

CONTACT US!

The church office is open:
Monday—Friday
9:00 AM—12:00 Noon

Pastor Ron's Office Hours:
Tuesday—Friday
9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Office Phone 304-342-5212
Pastor Ron Home:
304-342-3235

www.trinitywv.org
Email us at

office@trinitywv.org

To include your news item in your Church publications, please observe the following deadlines. Submission by email is appreciated!

Bulletin	9:00 am Tuesdays
Midweek	9:00 am Mondays
Newsletter	The 20th of the month

Sunday School News

Hope you have found a class you enjoy!

Sunday School/Youth Dates for 2012

February 21, 2012 – Shrove Tuesday
 April 1, 2012 – Palm Sunday
 April 8, 2012 – Easter Sunday/Egg Hunt
 May 20, 2012 – Graduation Sunday & Last day of Sunday School
 June 17 – 23, 2012 - Camp Luther
 July, 2012 – Youth Gathering in New Orleans
 September 9, 2012 – Rally Day
 December 2 & 9, 2012 – Christmas Program Practices
 December 16, 2012 – Youth Christmas Program



Lutheran Lines The latest issue (November , 2011) of **Lutheran Lines** is available at www.Lutheranonline.com/mtnwelca A copy is also on the board in the Social Hall. **Learn more about WELCA on the national website: www.womenoftheelca.org** We are now on Facebook. **Check us out!** **Learn more about WELCA on national website: www.womenoftheelca.org**

Trinity WELCA Dates for 2012

March ?, 2012 - Spring Cluster Meeting
 April 1, 2012 - Palm Sunday Reception
 April 14, 2012 - Saturday Brunch
 May 20, 2012 -Graduation Reception
 August 3-4, 2012 - Convention in Charleston
 September 8, 2012 - Saturday Brunch
 September 9, 2012 -Rally Day Reception
 October ?, 2012 - Hot Dog/Bake Sale
 October ?, 2012 - Fall Retreat at Tygart Lake
 October/November ?, 2012 – Bean Soup Mix Sale
 December 16, 2012 – Christmas Reception

Suzanna Circle

Suzanna Circle will meet on **Thursday, February 9**, at 9:30 am.

Rebekah Circle

Our next **Rebekah Circle** meeting will be Thursday, February 9, 2012 at 7:00 pm. in the church Social Hall. Karen Stouch will present our Bible study *To Follow and To Serve: The Gospel of Mark* Session 2—Mothers and Brothers .*In this session we are given glimpses of Jesus in the early days of his public ministry.* Lynn Schillings will provide us with our tasty treat during fellowship. Hope you can come and join in our study and fellowship.

Women of the ELCA News

A Devotion for February

Wash Day

I vividly remember as a young girl growing up, my mother had certain days that she did her weekly chores. She never strayed, regardless how mundane the task may have been. I remember her pulling out the old wringer washer on Monday. Loads of dirty laundry went from the washer to the blue rinse water and onto the clothesline to dry. She would take them off the line, sprinkle them with water from a coke bottle, roll them into bundles and placed them in the refrigerator for ironing day. Is any of this sounding familiar?

I received this email that spoke to my heart, while stirring memories long stored away.

". . . The Lord is good and His mercy endureth forever."

Monday — Wash Day

Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve You with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday — Ironing Day

Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday — Mending Day

O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

Thursday — Cleaning Day

Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday — Shopping Day

O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

Saturday — Cooking Day

Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday — The Lord's Day

O God, I have prepared my house for You. Please come into my heart so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in Your presence. Amen.

Highlights from Saturday Brunch, January 21st

The Trinity Women elected Eunice Burch as Vice President unanimously. She will be finding us a restaurant for our April meeting. We approved sending **\$300.00 each** to the following organizations: *Gabriel Project, Trinity's Table, WV/WMD Scholarship Fund, Trinity's Hopwood Scholarship Fund, and Covenant House Food Pantry*. We still have about \$130 left to disburse, but we need to sell a few remaining bean soup mixes. We'll decide in April where to send the balance from our sales. Thanks for the tremendous support and to Thrivent!



Coffee Fellowship News

We have a sign-up sheet for the coffee supply items for the year. We still need some volunteers to help supply the coffee items. Thanks for all your support. .

Social Ministry Committee's

VALENTINE RAFFLE

Four baskets will be raffled – each will include:

**Bottle of wine
Classic movie (DVD)
Homemade cookies
Jar of hot chocolate mix
Holls chocolates**

Also, two children's baskets will be raffled – each will include:

**Juice boxes
Movie (DVD)
Homemade cookies**



TYG information for 2012

TYG Recycles! Remember to bring your aluminum cans to the church for recycling!

TYG Donation Envelopes You may have noticed several decorated envelopes posted on the bulletin boards in the Social Hall and near the church office. TYG is fundraising to help support the cost of travel to the National Lutheran Youth Gathering in **New Orleans July 2012**. This year the synod has offered to arrange the travel and has put together a 10 day trip, traveling as a group via bus. The youth will stay at local churches on the way to New Orleans and will perform community service projects as they travel. Trinity is sending 9 youth/parent(s) on this adventure. Anyone who wishes to submit a donation toward this trip may place donations in an envelope and place in the church offering or place in the church office. We appreciate your generosity and support!



CARE LIST



The dear ones below would love calls, cards, or prayers from their friends at Trinity. Won't you contact one of these folks today?

<p>Florence Heilman Marmet Center – D 36 #1 Sutphin Drive Marmet, WV 25315</p>	<p>Ruth DeBolt 2537 Kay Lane Charleston, WV 25302 304-343-2360 304-343-6934 304-925-2771</p>
<p>Laveda Winkler 220 Kelly Avenue Oak Hill, WV 25901 304-222-2387</p>	<p>E. P. & Betty Harrison 242 Larier Gallipolis, OH 45631</p>
<p>Dorothy Strohmer Charleston Gardens 800 Association Drive # B-233 Charleston, WV 25311 304-881-0356</p>	<p>Charlie Young, Sr. 699 South Park Road Charleston, WV 25304 304-346-4692</p>
<p>Jessie Hostler 4000 Outlook Drive Hurricane, WV 25526 304-757-1668</p>	<p>Shirley Schweizer 309 50th Street, S. E. Charleston, WV 25304 304-925-2771</p>
<p>Marian Zamiela 1737 Rolling Hills Road Charleston, WV 25314 304-346-3656</p>	<p>Willie Daugherty 4305 Virginia Ave., SE Charleston, WV 25304 304-925-0917</p>
<p>Rev. and Mrs. James Bartsch 102 Bowhunter Road Charleston, WV 25314-2403</p>	<p>Leroy & Phyllis Weisnicht 253 Baker Lane Charleston, WV 25302-2937</p>
<p>Katie Henson 705 Amity Drive Charleston, WV 25302</p>	<p>Amy Swann 307 Ernest Way Charleston, WV 25311-1547</p>
<p>Ruthanna Casdorff 160 Laura Beth Lane Charleston, WV 25312-9715</p>	

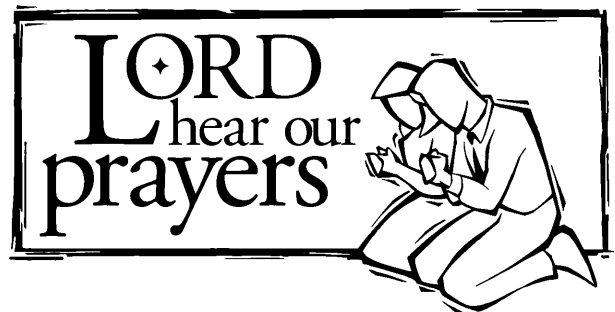


If you or someone you know is in need of prayer on a Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer card and hand it to the usher (as we have done for some time). The usher will give the cards to Pastor Ron, who will mention those names in the prayer of the church that morning. If you or the person whose name you present is in need of prayer over a long period of time, please call the church office so we can put the name on Trinity's prayer list.

Please let us know if a name needs to be added or removed.

Please pray for:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Bob Busse | Penny Meadows and |
| 2nd Lt. Jonathan Chapman | Alan Meadows |
| Kitty DeBolt | Cynthia Pratt |
| Ruth DeBolt | Ray Prudnick |
| Dewey Dixon | Shirley Schweizer |
| Dwayne | Dorothy Strohmer |
| Jonathan Lee England | Raelyn Strader |
| Nancy Entley | Abby Swann |
| Robin Hager | Amy Swann |
| Heather Harper | Ron Taylor |
| Florence Heilman | Kathy Walker |
| Barron Helgoe | Zaydn Walters |
| Sharon Henson | Laveda Winkler |
| Vera Howe | Bill Wright |
| Judith Judy | Charlie Young Sr. |
| George McKinney, III | Marian Zamiela |
| Shawn McKinney | |



(Pastor's Corner Continued)

I know that one day I will be busy doing something, thinking that whatever I am doing at that moment is the most important thing in the world, and a picture will fall out of a drawer, or a memory will be activated in my mind, and I will remember how sacred was the time that I spent here, with you, and what a wonderful, wonderful gift of God it was that we were together. For I will remember that by being with you God showed his love to me. And the things you and I said and did together gave me strength and nourishment to move to the next place God is calling me to.

Thank you for seventeen years together. It has been holy, and it has been precious. I can name a few particular things I want to thank you for. Two sabbaticals – one to visit the cathedrals of Europe and one to ride a bike around the ELCA for world hunger. When I think of those two sabbaticals I ask the same kind of questions I asked when that picture fell out of the drawer. Why did I, of all pastors, get to do this? [For not all congregations are agreeable to these kinds of things] How wonderful that I did! It is my hope, that when I have journeyed to the new place God is calling, that I can help congregations do for their pastors what you have done for me.

Again, I keep going back to what that picture that fell out of the drawer means. It means that the people with us today are God's wonderful gifts, who love and support us and celebrate with us, and who give us the strength to take his wonderful gifts to others. I hope that I have given to you as much a measure of God's infinite, limitless love as you have given me. God bless you.

Pastor Ron

Community News:

There will be a.....

**Benefit Concert
For
Samaritan Inn**

Featuring the Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus

Thursday, February 2, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Southridge Church

100 Eagle Drive South Charleston, WV 25309

There will be a love offering collected

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Handbell News



We are starting to look forward to preparing our Spring (IF it ever gets here!) music. In the meantime, please look for us to be ringing in church and try to come to church that day a little early to hear us. I promise to give you ample notice of the times we will be planning to play the bells in church.

We do enjoy being able to ring for you and hope you enjoy it also. We have a new addition to the choir and when you see us next in church you will be able to tell who has joined our group. We welcome our new ringer with open arms and thank her very much for the commitment she has given us. If anyone else would like to join, there are plenty of bells to go around. Please feel free to ask me or any of the group about being a member.

We have started practicing for our Spring ring, but we are also going to Beckley to play for the dedication of St. Luke's new addition to their church on April 29th. A few years ago, we played for their church building dedication and they asked us to return for the dedication of their addition. By the time you get this we will have played for church. Hope you enjoyed it.

Friendly Lutheran News

FRIENDLY LUTHERANS



We will be meeting on February 15th for a regular carry-in meal. Our group has dwindled a little in numbers, but our "fun" level has stayed the same or risen. Wouldn't you like to come out on the third Wednesday of every month to join us for appetizers and then a meal? Remember that we meet and greet starting at 11 a.m. We hope to see you then. If you need a ride, I am sure that can be arranged. Stay warm and be well.



You are invited to join us in our nursing home ministry at Meadowbrook Acres Nursing Home on **Friday, February 24th at 2:00 pm**. We will celebrate birthdays as we sing songs, offer prayers, and eat cake. For more information, please call Jonalee Young at 304-346-1851 or Pat Schillings at 304-345-9003.



The Men's Breakfast will be held on **February 18th at 8:30 am**. Y'all come and bring your appetites. It is a great way to start your Saturday with fellowship and good food.

St. Olaf Choir News:

On Tuesday, January 31, at 7:30 P.M. the world-renowned St. Olaf Choir, from St. Olaf College (a Lutheran college) in Northfield, MN, will present a concert at the Clay Center. For ticket information, please call the Clay Center at 304.561.3570 or go to www.theclaycenter.org (\$27 general admission) Don't miss this terrific opportunity!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES, cont.



Looking for a new and different way to serve the church? Want to know more about why we do what we do during Communion or the services? Want to get involved with making new banners, paraments or liturgical art?

ALTAR GUILD

Then you need to be a member of the Altar Guild! Contact the office, Linda Cook or Eunice Burch if you are interested. We'd love to get you involved! This is a behind the scenes job and you would not have to be in front of anyone!! Please consider helping out. Thank you very much.

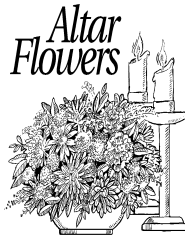


One of the ways you can serve your church is by being a reader on Sunday morning. There are open spots for both services and the sign-up sheet is opposite the church office on the bulletin board. You only need to read the First and Second lessons, and the Psalm. If you do not want to sing the Psalm, Pastor Ron will do this for you. It would be a help for those who have been doing this Sunday after Sunday. All information can be mailed (hard copy) or e-mailed to you in advance. Thank you very much.

Do you enjoy the **Children's Sermon**? See Laura Knauff or any of the presenters listed to volunteer.



- February 5 Sara Busse
- February 12 Greg Mallory
- February 19 Lisa Williamson
- February 26 Laura Knauff



To dedicate the altar flowers or sanctuary candle to someone, place their name and information on the sign-up sheets across from the church office. Flowers are \$46.00 and candles are \$2.00. You may place the money in the offering plate or bring it to the church office.

Other Notes



Nick Mitchell has been recording the late service each Sunday and if you or anyone you know would like to have a copy of the service, please call the office or get in touch with him. He will make a copy of that CD for you. They can be taken to shut-in's or to those who may have missed a service. **Check out the NEW website also: www.trinitywv.org**

Sound System

You have probably noticed the improvements to our sound system. It has been updated and expanded within the last two months. All of our services are now recorded on CD. We are working to put the recordings on our web page, which is also is being developed and updated. It is our goal to get the CD's to all of our homebound every week, and by the time of the next newsletter, we hope to have a system developed. In the meantime, some people are already taking home CD's of the services to members of their families who are homebound. Please call or see Nick Mitchell (304-543-6406) to make arrangements.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Food Pantry Needs:

Donations are welcome in the Food Pantry. The food pantry is in need of any type of grain items such as cereal, macaroni and cheese, plain macaroni, rice, noodles or any type of canned fruit. Anything you can spare is appreciated.